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REPORT OF THE ORNITHOLOGICAL SECTION.

During the past year a large part of the Conservator's time has been occupied by his duties as assistant to the Curators in other departments. It has, however, been possible to make considerable progress in the rearrangement of the ornithological collections. All of the mounted water birds, with the exception of the *Anatidæ* and *Laridæ*, have been carefully examined by the taxidermist, relabeled with both common and technical names, and installed on the ornithological floor of the new building. They completely fill the large case erected last year, and show to much better advantage than they did in the old gallery. During the close of the present year three additional cases have been furnished by the Curators, which it is estimated will accommodate about one-third of the entire mounted collection. Labels for most of the remaining water birds have already been prepared, and it is expected all the new cases will be filed and the new floor opened to the public in the spring.

For the study collection eighteen moth-proof cans and three large wooden cases have been purchased, permitting the abandonment of almost all of the temporary storage boxes that we were forced to make use of some years ago. With a similar provision next year the entire collection of bird skins will be accommodated in modern cases and rendered absolutely safe from moths and dust. Considerable time has been required to effect the systematic arrangement of the skins in the new cases, but as a result they are now more accessible than ever before. The McIlhenny collection of Alaskan birds, which was formally acquired early in the year, has been incorporated with the general collection, as also a valuable local collection of water birds, the gift of Mr. H. W. Fowler.

The Delaware Valley Ornithological Club and the Pennsylvania Audubon Society have continued to hold their meetings in the building and have done a great deal to stimulate the study of birds at the Academy. Much aid has been rendered during the year to ornithologists in other institutions, both by correspondence and by loan of specimens, and many visiting naturalists have made use of the collections.

Among other important additions to the department may be mentioned a series of birds from Lake Rudolf, Africa, from Dr.

A. Donaldson Smith; a series of several hundred skulls and sterna of American birds from H. W. Fowler and Witmer Stone, and a valuable collection of nests and eggs from Robert T. Young. At the annual meeting, held December 18, 1901, the following officers were chosen:

<i>Director</i> ,	Spencer Trotter, M.D.
<i>Vice-Director</i> ,	George Spencer Morris.
<i>Secretary</i> ,	William A. Shryock.
<i>Recorder</i> ,	Stewardson Brown.
<i>Treasurer and Conservator</i> ,	Witmer Stone.

Respectfully submitted,

WITMER STONE,
Conservator.

The election of Officers, Councilors and Members of the Committee on Accounts to serve during 1902 was held with the following result:

PRESIDENT,	Samuel G. Dixon, M.D.
VICE-PRESIDENTS,	Arthur Erwin Brown, Edwin G. Conklin, Ph.D.
RECORDING SECRETARY,	Edward J. Nolan, M.D.
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY,	J. Percy Moore, Ph.D.
TREASURER,	George Vaux, Jr.
LIBRARIAN,	Edward J. Nolan, M.D.
CURATORS,	Henry C. Chapman, M.D., Arthur Erwin Brown, Samuel G. Dixon, M.D., Henry A. Pilsbry, Sc.D.
COUNCILORS TO SERVE THREE YEARS,	Uselma C. Smith, Charles Roberts, John Cadwalader, William Sellers.
COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS,	Uselma C. Smith, Charles Morris, William L. Bailly, Harold Wingate, Lewis Woolman.